

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 12, and 13:

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 12, and 13¹ stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,290,615 to Ogg (hereinafter Ogg). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Ogg fails to disclose all of the elements as set forth and arranged in the claims.

Claim 1 sets forth a golf ball having a spherical surface wherein raised ridges extend to define a plurality of independent non-circular shapes, wherein one of the non-circular shapes does not share any raised ridges with any adjacent one of the non-circular shapes.

Ogg discloses a golf ball having a number of ridges which project from the spherical surface of the ball. In contrast to that set forth in claim 1, however, Ogg's ridges are used to create a number of hexagonal structures on the surface of the ball, wherein each of the hexagonal structures shares a ridge with at least one of the adjacent hexagonal structures. In fact, the Examiner appears to note as much in the February 23 2005, Office action at page 3, 1st full paragraph, by stating that the shapes of Ogg “[are] not independent of the adjacent shape”. Accordingly, Ogg fails to disclose a plurality of independent non-circular shapes, wherein one of the non-circular shapes does not share any raised ridges with any adjacent one of the non-circular shapes, as set forth in claim 1.

For at least any of the above reasons, Ogg fails to anticipate claim 1. Likewise, this reference fails to anticipate dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 8-10, 12, and 13.

¹ Applicants note that claim 11 depends from allowed claim 7 and, therefore, is mistakenly included in the statement of the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 6, and 7 are allowed. Because claim 11 depends from claim 7, it is believed that claim 11 should be allowed as well.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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